

REFERENCE



COLLECTIONS

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MARK TWAIN'S

SCRAP BOOK.

PATENT
281,657.

TRADE MARKS:

UNITED STATES.

REGISTERED No. 5,896.

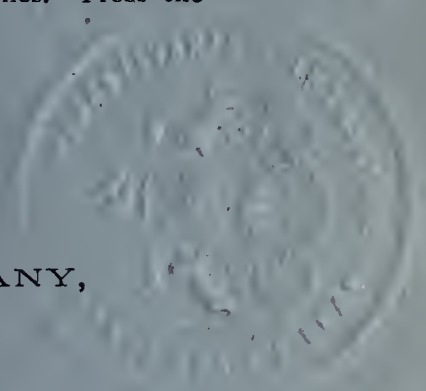
GREAT BRITAIN.

REGISTERED No. 15,979.

DIRECTIONS.

Use but little moisture, and only on the gummed lines. Press the
scrap on without wetting it.

DANIEL SLOTE & COMPANY,
NEW YORK.





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From, *Record*

Wilkesbarre Pa

Date, *Feb 15 1899*

A REMARKABLE INDICTMENT.

IT WAS PRESENTED IN THE LAST
CENTURY IN THE COURTS
OF NORTHUMBERLAND
COUNTY AT SUN-
BURY. *N*

[Contributed by C. F. Hill.]

The following bill of indictment was presented at a court in Northumberland County and is copied from the Pennsylvania Archives, Vol XI, page 744. James Jenkins, named therein as one of the grand jurors, was at the time living near the present town of Lewisburg, and was the former owner and projector of Fort Jenkins, on the North Branch of the Susquehanna in Columbia County. The document is a remarkable example of legal verbiage and is interesting for more reasons than one:

Northumberland County, SS:

Be it remembered that at a court of Oyer and Terminer and General Gaol Delivery holden Sunbury in and for the County of Northumberland on Friday, the twelfth day of November, 1790, before the Honorable Thomas McKean, Esquire, Doctor of Laws, Chief Justice, and the Honorable George Bergan, Esquire, Justice of the Supreme Court of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and Justices of the said Commonwealth assigned to hear, try and determine all and every the Indictments and Presentments made and taken for or concerning all Treasons, Murders, and such other crimes as are by the Laws of the said Commonwealth made Capital and Felonies of Death, which have or may be done, committed, perpetrated or happened, within the said Commonwealth, or also to deliver the Gaols of all persons which have or may be committed for the Crimes aforesaid, by the Oath of William Montgomery, Esquire, William Cooke, Esquire, John Weitzel, Esquire, John Gettig, Esquire, William Hepburn, Esquire, Robert Fleming, Esquire, Samuel Weiser, Esquire, Peter Hosterman, James Jenkins, Barnard

Neubly, John Thomburg, Anthony Selin, Paul Baldy, Amanual Sutton, Christian Yentzer, James Alexander and Thomas Gaskins, and solemn affirmation of Joseph Wallis, Esquire, George Hughes, and Samuel Walles, Esquire, good and lawful men of the county aforesaid, impannelled, sworn, affirmed and charged to enquire for the said Commonwealth, and the Body of the said County of Northumberland, it is presented that Henry Walker, Joseph Walker, Benjamin Walker and Samuel Doyle, all late of the Township of Lycoming, in the County of Northumberland, Yeomen, not having the Fear of God before their eyes, but being moved and seduced by the Instigation of the Devil, on the twenty-seventh day of June, 1790, with force and arms, etc., in and upon a certain Indian man, whose name is to the Inquest aforesaid unknown, in the peace of God and of the Commonwealth then and there being, feloniously, wilfully, and of their malice aforethought, did make an assault; and that the said Henry Walker with a certain tomahawk, which he the said Henry Walker then and there had and held in his right hand, the said Indian man, whose name is to the Inquest unknown, in and upon the back part of the head of him, the said Indian man, feloniously, wilfully, and of his malice aforethought did strike, wound and penetrate then and there, giving to the said Indian man, in and upon the back part of the said Indian man, with the tomahawk aforesaid, one mortal wound, of the length of three inches, and of the depth of one inch, of which said mortal wound the said Indian man then and there did die: and that the said Benjamin Walker, Joseph Walker and Samuel Doyle, then and there with force and arms, etc., feloniously, and of their malice aforethought, were present, aiding, abetting and assisting the said Henry Walker, the Felony and Murder aforesaid, in manner and form aforesaid, then and there to do, perpetrate and commit. And so the Inquest aforesaid, upon their oaths and affirmations aforesaid, do say that the said Henry Walker, Joseph Walker and Samuel Doyle, him, the said Indian man, whose name is to the Inquest aforesaid as yet unknown, then and there in manner and form aforesaid, feloniously, wilfully and of their malice aforethought, did kill and murder against the Peace and Dignity of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

And afterwards, to-wit, at the same Delivery of the Gaol of the said Commonwealth at Sunbury, in and for the County aforesaid, on Saturday, the twelfth day of November aforesaid, cometh the said Samuel Doyle under the custody of Martin Withington, Esquire, Sheriff of the County aforesaid, (in whose custody in the Gaol of the county aforesaid, for the cause aforesaid, he had been committed before) being brought to the Bar by the said sheriff, to whom he is also here committed, and forthwith being demanded of the premises aforesaid, above charged upon him, how he will acquit himself thereof; he saith that he is not guilty thereof; and thereof for good and evil he puts himself upon the county—

William Bradford, Esq., Attorney for the said Commonwealth, who proposes for the said Commonwealth in its behalf, doth the like. Therefore, let a Jury of the County immediately come before the Justices of the Commonwealth aforesaid, by whom the truth of the matter may be better known, and who has no affinity to the said Samuel Doyle, to recognize, upon their Oath and Affirmation, whether the said Samuel Doyle be guilty of the premises in the indictment above specified or not guilty. And the jurors of the said jury by the said sheriff for this purpose impanelled and returned, to-wit: John Bosely, Jacob Driesbach, Jacob Gemberling, Henry Driesbach, George Dougherty, James McMahon, Robert Fruit, Daniel Montgomery, Hugh White, Benjamin Patterson, George Obennire and Henry Shoemaker, being called, came; who being duly elected, tried, sworn and affirmed to speak the truth of the premises upon their Oaths and Affirmation, respectfully do say, the said Samuel Doyle is not guilty of the Felony and Murder whereof he stands indicted, and that he did not fly for the same. Whereupon all and singular, the premises aforesaid being seen, and by the Court here fully understood. It is considered by the Court that the said Samuel Doyle be bound by recognizance to the said Commonwealth in the sum of two hundred pounds lawful money of the said Commonwealth, with two sureties, in the sum of one hundred pounds, like money aforesaid each, conditioned for the good behavior of the said Samuel Doyle, and that he be of the peace, etc., until the next Court of Oyer and Terminer for the county aforesaid, and that he stand committed until the costs of the prosecution be paid.

A true transcript of the record.

J. Ewing, Cl'k Cur.

Historical Column.

GLEANINGS FROM EARLY NEWS-PAPERS.

[From Wilkes-Barre Advertiser, 1813.]
Kingston Moral Society, organized Nov. 13, 1813, at house of Philip Myers, inn-keeper, Rev. Benj. Bidlack presided, Charles Chapman was secretary, Col. Benj. Dorrance treasurer. The purpose was to enforce existing laws.

Oliver Evans of Philadelphia was so convinced of the practicability of driving carriages by steam that he was willing to subscribe 25 or 30 thousand dollars to a stock company, "payable in steam carriages or engines invented by him, warranted to answer to the satisfaction of the stockholders, and even to run 12 or 15 miles per hour, with passengers, if required."

At the fall election (1813), the Republican county ticket was successful, as follows:

Assembly, Jabez Hyde, Jr., Joseph Pruner.

Sheriff, Elijah Shoemaker; coroner, Eliphalet Smith; commissioner, Benjamin Carey; auditors, Charles Barrett, Cyrus Avery, Asa Stevens.

The defeated Federal ticket was follows:

Assembly, Rosewell Welles, Putnam Catlin.

Sheriff, John Robinson, Naphthali Hurlbut.

Coroner, Phineas Waller, Caleb Roberts.

Commissioner, Joseph Wright, Plymouth.

Auditors, Henry Buckingham, Caleb Hoyt, Eleazer Carey.

The meagreness of the population of that day is shown by the vote. The combined vote for sheriff was 2,787. The combined vote for assembly was 4,384, and this covered the three present counties of Luzerne, Susquehanna and Bradford.

* * *

Woollen Rags—H. Buckingham will pay cash for any quantity of Woollen Rags and Swingle Tow, provided the shives are well shaken out.

Kingston, Oct. 28, 1813.

H. Buckingham has just received a supply of new goods and will sell them as low as the times will allow. It is so hard to say, I cannot trust you, sir,—that he hopes his customers will call prepared to pay. Old Rags, Mustard Seed, Hogs' Bristles, and most of the productions of this country received in payment.

Kingston, Nov. 20, 1813.

* * *

Marriages—Oct. 22, 1813—Abiel Abbott to Miss Cylinda Atherton, daughter of Elisha Atherton.

Dec. 2, 1813—Joshua Miner to Miss Fanny Hepburn.

Dec., 1813—At Careytown, Miller Horton to Miss Betsey Waller.

* * *

Henry Blackman was advertising for subscriptions for a work which he proposed publishing, entitled "The Young Carpenter's Dictionary." It was to be a short and easy instructor. Price 37½ cents.

* * *

One of the more extensive advertisers was Dr. Mason B. Crary, who sometimes took up a column in praise of his "Antiseptic Family Physic, in Pills. For sale at the Visitor office. Price 50 cents." If not as represented the pills could be returned.

* * *

Most of the reading space is devoted to war news. Under date of Nov. 26, 1813, it is stated that "the Luzerne Matross, under the command of Capt. Thomas, having honorably served their time of duty, have been discharged and have returned home.

Referring to Perry's victory, the Advertiser, under date of Oct. 1, 1813, gives the following:

MOST GLORIOUS NEWS.

Washington City, Sept. 22.
Copy of a letter from Commodore Perry to the Secretary of the Navy:
U. S. Brig Niagara, Head of Lake Erie, Sept. 10, 1813, 4 p. m.

Sir—It has pleased the Almighty to give the Arms of the United States a signal Victory over their enemies on this Lake. The British Squadron, consisting of two ships, two brigs, one schooner and one sloop, have this mo-

ment surrendered to the force under my command, after a sharp conflict.

I have the honor to be, sir,
Very respectfully your obedient servant,

O. H. PERRY.

To the hon. Wm. Jones, Secretary of the Navy.

* * *

It could not be safe, however, in assuming that Perry did not write the words usually attributed to him, for in the next issue the official account of the victory is published, and mention is made of two letters from Perry, both written three days later than the one given above.

* * *

The slowness with which news traveled there is shown by the dates. News of Perry's victory was 12 days reaching Washington and 20 days reaching Wilkes-Barre.

* * *

"Proposals at the Gleaner office are now made, to publish the essays 'From the desk of Poor Robert the Scribe,' containing lessons in manners, morals and domestic economy. It will contain more than 100 pages, 12 mo., and shall be printed on good paper from new type. Price 75 cents in boards."

* * *

In this day it seems strange to read an advertisement like this:

"The subscriber has in operation in the borough of Wilkes-Barre, two spinning machines, a Billy of 50 and a Jenny of 60 spindles for the purpose of spinning merino and country wool, under the superintendence of Dennis McCombs, a professed spinner of wool from one of the first factories in the United States.

Persons wishing to can have their wool spun, by leaving it with the subscriber, uncarded.

As the subscriber has been at a very great expense he hopes to meet with encouragement from his fellow citizens.

Benjamin Perry.

Aug. 12, 1813.

* * *

Under date of Sept. 10, 1813, mention is made of the death of Allen Jack, merchant, occasioned by falling from a new building which he was erecting.

* * *

Thomas Wright informs drovers that he can accommodate them with pasture two miles above Wilkes-Barre.

THE PALATINE IMMIGRANT JOHAN PETER LOWE.

According to Rupp's Thirty Thousand Germans, Johan Peter Lowe was an immigrant of the immigration known as the Palatines and came over in the good ship Chance, Captain Charles Smith, which sailed from Rotterdam touching at Cowes and landed at Philadelphia on Sept. 23d, 1766, when and where he took the oath of allegiance to Great Britain. The next trace we find of him is in the early records of Wyoming Valley, Pa., in what is known as the Westmoreland Records, as given in the Penna. Archives, Vol. XVIII, Second Series, page 539, the brief of title under the heading Benjamin Dorrance, sub division 998, says claims 43 acres

and 48 perches of lot 39 in third division, Kingston list. Drawn to the right of Ozias Gale, West. Records, page 623, Ozias Gale to Justus Gaylord for 100 acres of his right in Kingston. Quantity and quality, Deed dated 19th May, 1774, consideration doing the duties of a settler. West. Rec. page 773, Justus Gaylord to Peter Low for a quarter of a back lot drafted by Ozias Gale. Deed dated 19th June, 1777, consideration £40, L. M. Deed 1st March 1808, consideration \$40.

Cornelius Low, Peter Hornback and his wife, Mariah Hornback, Samuel Low, Cornelius Swarthout and Sarah, his wife, to claimant for all their lands lying in Kingston. See deposition filed of Henry T. Osterhout, That Cornelius

Low, Samuel Low and Mariar Low, now the wife of Peter Hornback, and Sarah Low, now the wife of Cornelius Swarthout, are all the heirs of the said Peter Low, deceased. The same attested by James Gardner.

We next trace Cornelius Low to the West Branch of the Susquehanna, where, during the Revolutionary War, he bought in the Buffalo Valley a farm, the confiscated estate of Alexander Bertram, an attainted traitor. See page 283, Colonial Records Vol. VI. We next find his name enrolled in the Fifth Company, Captain Cookson Long, of the Second Battalion of Northumberland County Militia, under command of Col. James Potter. This company consisted of 73 effective men and was known to be in actual service on Jan. 24th and Dec. 3d, 1776, how much longer the records do not disclose. We next find page 203, Penna. Archives, second series, Vol. III, the name of Cornelius Low, signed to a long memorial of the inhabitants of the West Branch under date June 10th, 1778, Muncy, Pa. A long list of grievances, depredations and murders committed upon the settlers by the Indians.

A second memorial bearing date Nov. 25th, 1778, to the General Assembly at Philadelphia, is also signed by Cornelius Low. See page 250, Vol. III, Penna. Archives, second series. To this same memorial are appended the names of a second Cornelius Low and William Low, which leaves the inference strong and clear that Cornelius Low had two sons, Cornelius and William.

[Contributed to the Record by C. F. Hill, Hazleton.]

LIBERTY BELL LEAFLETS.

There is being published by the Christopher Sower Company, Philadelphia, a series of pamphlets entitled "Liberty Bell Leaflets," being translations and reprints from original historical documents. The publishing house is the oldest in America, Christopher Sower (or Saur) having established himself in Philadelphia as a book printer in 1738. The leaflets are the outgrowth of an increasing demand for historical documents and will be valuable as illustrating the growth and development of American institutions and enabling the student to see history through the eyes of its makers. The leaflets will deal with "papers typical of proprietary influence, and of the county-township system of local gov-

ernment as it impressed itself upon that belt of western migration which sprang from the middle colonies and spread to the Pacific." The series thus far announced is as follows:

No. 1.—Inducements and Charter from States General of Holland to Settlers on the Hudson.

No. 2.—The West Jersey Constitution of 1677.

No. 3.—Penn's Frame of Government of 1682 and Privileges and Concessions of 1701.

No. 4.—Charter of the Province of Pennsylvania.

No. 5.—Gabriel Thomas' Description of Pennsylvania and West Jersey.

No. 6.—The Letters of a Farmer, or John Dickinson's arguments against English Taxation.

No. 7.—Conrad Weiser's Notes on the Habits and Customs of the Iroquois and Delaware Indians, prepared for Christoph Saur and published from 1746-1749.

No. 8.—William Penn's Letter to the Free Society of Traders, 1683.

No. 9.—The Ordinance of 1787.



